

Dear Sir

Horace Mather

May 16, 1893.

London 23<sup>rd</sup> Septem<sup>r</sup> 1783

g 33.20 MS. A. 1653 (2)

It was with unspeakable pleasure I received your letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> July, the first I have had from you since I left you at Boston, which was accompanied by a letter from my Sister Hannah and one from her Husband - the one you mention to have sent by your Neighbour Tucker I have never received or heard of. After a seven years separation from my family, without receiving a letter from anyone of them, it seems like being restored to them to hear from them -

I thank you for your Book intituled a Legacy to the States, but however I approve of the general tenor of it, I can't say but I feel a little hurt at a particular Passage in the 28<sup>th</sup> Page of it, which looks as if you meant I never should return again to you - the Passage I allude to is that wherein you say "It may well be expected that all the Deserters of the cause should never be employed in any Place of consequence to the Community" by which I suppose is to be understood that none of them should be so employed - for they can't all expect to be employed, as many of them are not fit for public Employments, but it would be hard if those who are fit for them and have always been used to such Employment (supposing they should be allowed to come among you) should be incapacitated from rendering those Services to the Public they have a right to expect from them and which they

they are capable of performing, however as I know the great  
love You bear your Country & I am convinced the Clause was well  
meant, I don't think myself warranted to say anything further  
about it, except that I think it savours too little of that Christian  
Charity (which God forbid I should even imagine You ever could  
be destitute of) that teaches us to forgive our Brother seventy  
times seven times, if his Intention was to offend; it's needless  
to say the same Charity would think there was no need of  
forgiveness where the Fault proceeded from an Ignor in Judgment  
only, without any Malice preposse — I am sure You will  
excuse my freedom, as notwithstanding noting what I have vented  
to say upon the Matter I shall always think it my Duty to  
submit to your better Judgment —

I am obliged by your kind enquiries after my fixed  
Place of abode and means of subsistence, it has a shew of that  
national regard for me which I was almost afraid was  
extinguished by my long Absence and from my not hearing from You  
in Answer I can only say that this Government have allowed  
me the Salary of my Office to live upon since I have been here  
and that a Committee of Parliament has been appointed to  
enquire into the Losses and Services of the American Loyalists  
and that I am in hopes of having a Provision made for me on  
Account of my long Services, which You know was the Intention  
of my coming to England, abstracted wholly from any Idea of  
or Intention of being concerned in, the Dispute at that time  
subsisting between Great Britain and the Colonies — when

This Provision is settled I shall have my Place of residence to  
choose, as I have not yet made up my Mind upon that Matter.  
If I have no Invitation to my own Country (which I have not  
great reason to expect as I have so few Friends in power) I  
shall sit myself down where I think it most likely I can lie  
quietly and comfortably & say with good old Owenus

"Illa mihi Patria est ubi pascor, non ubi nascor

"Illa ubi pastus sum non ubi natus esam

"Illa mihi Patria est mihi quae Patrimonia praebet

"Hic ubiunque habeo quod satis est habito"

in the mean time I live in London where I have taken no  
House for the Winter —

I purchased at a Booksellers Shop a few Days ago a  
very good Magnalia for half a Guinea and I have picked up  
by accident my Grandfathers General Sermon from Genesis 5<sup>th</sup>  
24<sup>th</sup>. I will be obliged to You to acquaint me who it was pre-  
pared by and at what time my Grandfather died, as the Book wants  
the Title Page, but is otherwise perfect. You see I have a regard  
for my Ancestors —

My old Friend Mr. John Greenwood acquaints me You  
have in your possession a Letter written by Oliver Cromwell  
with his own hand to my Grandfather. I am apprehensive  
he means a letter from Lord General Oliver Cromwell to Mr.  
John Cotton dated 2<sup>d</sup> October 1657 & which is recorded in my  
Uncle Hutchinsons Appendix to his History. If You are in  
possession of that or any such original Papers, which can be of

of no use to yourself & will send them to me, I will accept of  
them as a very great favour

I dined a few days ago in the City with a namesake  
who is an eminent Merchant but not at all related to our Family  
he was born in Northumberland & acquaints me that our Name  
is very common in that Country and that in one very large Town  
there are not above eight or ten Persons by any other name. I am  
in hopes if I should be obliged to go into the mercantile way that  
this Gentleman may be of great service to me - but how  
Providence will dispose of me it is impossible at this time to  
say.

I am affraid ~~that~~ I shall not have time to write  
to my Sister & Captain brother by this opportunity as I hear  
the Vessel is to sail tomorrow which is much sooner than  
I expected she would go, but if I should not You will be  
pleased to make my acknowledgement of their Favours &  
I will not fail myself to do it by some other occasion  
My Wife joins me in Duty to Yourself and love to all the  
Family and I am with great respect & truth

Dear Sir

Your dutiful. & most affectionate  
& obedient humble servant

Rev'd Dr Mather

Sam'l Mather